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A fresh perspective

Town to develop master plan for Bay Beach

4



George McDermott

Candidate hopes to represent ward one

9



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Inspiring youth



SARAH FERGUSON Fort Erie Times

From left, Peace Bridge Public School students John Brooks, Blake Cochrane, Dakota Gudmore and Isiah Johnathon-Elliott drop pennies into clay boats to test their buoyancy last Thursday as part of the parents night for the school's after school Youth University program sponsored by Brock University.

Hundreds will battle cancer with one step at a time

Fort Erie youth
Brandon
Caruana to climb
Skylon Tower

Sarah Ferguson
Fort Erie Times

Brandon Caruana was diagnosed with pineblasto-

ma, a rare brain tumour, just a week before his eighth birthday.

The Our Lady Of Victory Catholic Elementary School

student underwent several operations, radiation and chemotherapy to battle his cancer.

At 12 years-old, Caruana

has been given a clean bill of health—but he hasn't forgotten his illness.

See Page 2

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Youth will make climb to support research

From Page 1

That's why Caruana will be one of many people participating in the Canadian Cancer Society's 22nd annual Stair Climb for Children's Cancer at the Skyton Tower in Niagara Falls on April 12.

"I've been exercising at the gym on the treadmill to get ready for this," Brandon said.

Brandon's mother, Lisa Caruana said she finally realized what life "is all about" while she and her husband, Joe, watched their son go through treatment. Lisa and Joe stayed at Ronald

McDonald House while Brandon battled his cancer at McMaster Children's Hospital.

"You hear adults complain about their everyday living, but in the hospital we saw children that were blind, deaf and living in wheelchairs. The experience really put things into perspective."

Lisa will never forget the day they first brought Brandon to the Hamilton hospital.

"It was Sept. 6 when we took him to McMaster. We knew something was wrong," Lisa said.

"He had double vision, he

was vomiting and he had headaches."

Lisa "never thought" her son would be diagnosed with cancer. It wasn't something she thought about.

Now Lisa is cheering on her son while he raises donations for cancer research.

"Brandon and his brother (Andrew) run around the climb to get ready for the stair climb," she said.

"I say 'go, boys go' to encourage them."

Brandon won't be alone when he makes the trek up the Skyton Tower's stairs. He'll be walking beside his hero, Olympic climber, Mike

Strange as part of the Climb Buddy program.

The Climb Buddy program matches Canadian Olympic heroes and hopefuls with local children battling cancer, said Angela Daly of the Canadian Cancer Society.

"The program started last year and it provides a special experience for local children going through cancer treatment," Daley said.

"A buddy will climb with a child, and others will climb on a child's behalf. Some children are not well enough to climb on their own."

The event will feature a variety of activities for children including lunch and crafts.

Daley said anyone can participate on behalf of a child sick with cancer.

"It can be school groups, organizations and individuals can climb for children. It doesn't have to be athletes," Daley said to the Olympians



SARAH FERGUSON Fort Erie Times

From left, Brandon Caruana, boxer Mike Strange, and Brandon's brother Andrew will participate in the Canadian Cancer Society's 22nd annual Stair Climb for Children's Cancer at the Skyton Tower in Niagara Falls on April 12.

will compete for the fastest time and win a gold, silver or bronze medal for their buddy. Other Olympians will chose to do a casual climb with their child.

To pre-register for the event, visit online at www.cancer.ca/stair-climbniagara. For more information call 905-684-6455 ext. 3151, or e-mail adaley@ontario.cancer.ca.

sarah.ferguson@sunmedia.ca

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Tough winter on regional roads and budget

Rob Houle
QMI Agency Niagara

We're going to need a bigger budget.

So say transportation staffers in a roads report to Niagara Region's public works committee.

Councillors were told last week the harsh winter has been especially brutal on region roads.

In its 2014 budget, the region set aside \$5.1 million for its road restructuring program. Of that, \$4 million is earmarked for Phase 1 of the program to resurface 13 sections of roads. The report says because of the harsh winter, the remaining \$1.1 million for the second phase will fall short of what is required to strengthen or resurface roads that are in a serious state of disrepair.

The report also notes the 2014 transportation operations budget of \$600,000 for patching and crack sealing of roads will require an additional \$400,000. "We're looking at the first phase—a substantial phase—of the resurfacing and rehabilitation program," public works commissioner Ron Tripp told councillors. "There is going to be subsequent work. We are in the process of

reviewing our road network now to determine those priorities. There is a possibility that we will have to come back to council proposing a different strategy in terms of growing the program larger than it had been contemplated in the capital budget already."

Tripp said staff will verify the condition of the region's roads once frost is out of the ground and will report back to council on what extra money is required.

St. Catharines Coun. Alan Caslin said he has received a number of calls from constituents regarding the state of some of the region's roads.

It does have our full attention," Caslin said. "We are aware that our roads need help and we are addressing them."

The region emphasizes

Sections of roads schedules for resurfacing in 2014 as part of phase 1:

- Marshagan Rd. in Wainfleet from the regional boundary to Concession 6 Rd.; and Concession 6 Rd. to Regional Rd. 45
- Dominion Rd. in Fort Erie from Buffalo Rd. to Kraft Rd.
- Main St. E. in Grimsby-- from

the regional boundary to Oakes Rd.; and from Oakes Rd. to Casablanca Blvd.

- St. Paul Ave. in Niagara Falls from Mountain Rd. to Stone Gate; Stone Gate to Steele Rd.
- Stanley Ave. North in Niagara Falls from Ramsey Rd. to Marineland Pkwy.
- York Rd. in Niagara-on-the-Lake from Concession 3 Rd. to

Concession 2 Rd.; and Concession 2 Rd. to Sheppard Cres.

- Seventh St. in St. Catharines from South Service Rd. to St. Paul St. W.
- Glenridge Ave. in St. Catharines from St. David's Rd. to Lockhart Dr.
- Fourth Ave. in St. Catharines from Seventh St. to Third St.

regarding its roads is one of rehabilitation as quickly as possible before it becomes necessary for a more costly reconstruction, but Joe Cousins, the director of transportation services, warned committee members what is being spent on rehabilitation on a yearly basis is falling

short.

"Of the last few years, the capital budget has had to concentrate on a couple major structure issues -- of course Burgoyne (bridge) and Central Ave. bridge, that's taken up quite a bit of the funding," Cousins said. "We've also been trying to play a little bit of

catch-up in some of the urban reconstructs in various urban areas. Our concern now that the amount of money we're spending on an annual basis is not going to be sufficient to get forward."

Cousins said staff will be coming back to council with budget recommen-

dations when the spring cycle is complete and a review of the region's network of roads is completed.

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Town to develop a master plan for Bay Beach

Sarah Ferguson
Fort Erie Times

Just months after a 12-sto-

rey condominium project was scrapped, the Town of Fort Erie is setting its sights on the future.

And a new plan for the Bay Beach area.

Council approved a report that will see planning staff move ahead with preparing the framework for a master plan to develop town-owned lands on Bay Beach for commercial and recreational use, said the Town's director of planning and community development services, Rick Brady.

In the master plan, the town will look at two components. The first component will look at how the land is currently used and determine whether it needs to be changed.

The second component of the master plan will look at whether or not the property will need to be rezoned in order to make necessary changes.

Brady said the property that will be impacted by a master plan is the Beach property on the east side of Erie Rd.

"The original zoning on that property was commercial," he said.

"The whole area was used for commercial purposes for a long period of time. When the town bought it, they never changed that zoning."

The only rezoning that occurred was made to a portion of land in order to allow the Molinaro Group to construct the condominium project. The project was killed when the Molinaros announced on Dec. 31 last year that they would be walking away from the project.

The Molinaros made the decision to end the project just weeks after council rejected giving an extension to the project that would give the Molinaros more time to sell condominium units.

Brady said once the master plan is completed, the Town will consider whether or not there is a need for boardwalks, washrooms and other facilities.

Town staff recommended the development of a master plan be streamlined so

council could approve it before the next municipal election set for October.

Although some councillors believed the master plan should be in place before the next election, Brady said the master plan will take time to develop.

If the Town moves forward with a master plan, he said it should be "done right" and consider what the public wants.

Brady suggested to council that the finalized master plan be brought forward to the new council in December or January.

"It (the master plan) will be presented in front of the next council's term. It takes a long time for a master plan to be developed and it could take close to a year," he said.

Brady believes council decided to move forward with the application because council wanted it.

"I think they want it because they like to have some resolution to this issue. Everyone put a lot of

money into this argument and they would feel deflated if they don't get an answer," Brady said.

With a master plan in the works for Bay Beach, Brady said there will be plenty of opportunity for the public to have its say about the plan.

"I think the condo at Bay Beach has caused a lot of strife in the community and I am hoping that we can put it behind us and work on a positive aspect of the beach," he said.

"I am hoping the community of Crystal Beach can embrace this and realize it will be a fresh look at the area," Brady said.

Brady said compromises between the Town and the community will need to be made.

"We have to be realistic in terms of how much money we have to do improvements."

sarah.ferguson@sunmedia.ca



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Man injured in Crystal Beach grease fire

A Crystal Beach resident was taken to hospital following a grease fire Monday morning.

Fort Erie firefighters responded to a call for a fire at 74 Queen's Cir. at 1:30 a.m.

"It was a grease fire that caught on the stove," said Fort Erie fire Chief Larry Coplen.

"The tenant tried to extinguish it by carrying the pot and throwing it out the window and in doing so, he suffered second degree burns to his head, shoulder and

arm."

Coplen said there was minimal damage to the apartment due to smoke.

"We were on scene about 45 minutes. Originally, there were about five fire trucks that responded but we quickly released everyone and remained with one vehicle," he said.

Coplen reminds residents to turn the stove off and cover the fire if one should ignite. "Don't ever try to move a burning oil fire. You will get burned," he said.

Bison tickets benefit Niagara United Way

United Way of South Niagara is hoping to hit a home run with its latest fundraising initiative.

"The agency has teamed up with the South Niagara Bisons, the triple-A affiliate of the Toronto Blue Jays, and will be selling tickets at its Seaway Mall office.

A portion of the proceeds from Bison flex tickets, which are undated and can be used anytime throughout the 2014 season, will support United Way's 2014 campaign.

Tickets, which exclude

special events, are \$12 each.

"We are thrilled that the Bisons are helping us out here in South Niagara," said United Way executive director Tamara Coleman-Lawrie.

"There are a lot of baseball fans in our region and when tickets are ordered through our office, our whole community will benefit."

For more information or to order tickets, e-mail deanna@southniagara.on.ca or call 905-735-0490.

Rescued lobster dies

In the end, the ordeal was just too much for Mickey the abandoned lobster.

Mickey was rescued by the Lincoln County Humane Society after being found in a parking lot in St. Catharines.

The humane society suspects Mickey the lobster could have been used for an April Fool's Day prank. The humane society was keeping the lobster in an aquarium with salt water that was dosed by a grocery store.

Mickey's saga and rescue garnered national headlines as the humane society figured out the next step for the crustacean.

Alas, humane society executive director Kevin Strooband reports when he got into his office Thursday morning, Mickey was found lifeless in the aquarium.

"I am very surprised by the reaction," said Strooband, adding there were a handful of offers to try the critter to a new ocean home.

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Town should take its time to develop a master plan for Bay Beach area

During Monday's council-in-committee meeting, council directed staff to move forward with developing a master plan for the development of Bay Beach.

The news comes just months after a controversial 12-storey condominium project was scrapped on Dec. 31.

There was a lot of heartache, frustration, time, effort and money that was put into the condominium project that never saw the light of day.

The project left a lot of people feeling angry. When the project was scrapped, residents wondered what impression it gave to developers and business owners looking to expand in Fort Erie.

In an effort to improve the area, the Town will look at developing a map for what the area could be.

Some councillors felt the master plan should be streamlined so it could be completed in five months—with just enough time to spare before the upcoming provincial election.

Hopefully, town staff will take time to consider the needs and desires of the community that will be impacted by this master plan. Developing a master plan is not something that can be done quickly, especially after the turmoil what greater Fort Erie residents have seen happen to the condominium project. The plan needs to be given a lot of thought.

For those naysayers that believe Fort Erie is a dreary place to live, the Town of Fort Erie now has an opportunity to transform Bay Beach into a beautiful place for residents to live, work and play. If the master plan isn't rushed, there is the potential for the community to move forward with a positive attitude about the project.

Here's hoping Bay Beach can become a positive and vibrant part of the community that attracts people from across the region and around the world.



Do You Remember?

Our thanks to Barbara Underwood who wrote in to identify her mother Eileen Reid, the 1965 Ladies Champion at the Rio Vista Golf Club.

To the anonymous caller who left a message with the names of most of the people

in last week's photo, don't be shy, we would love to hear back from you or anyone else who can put these names to the faces: Ed Denham, Burt Jepson, and Bob Passero.

Does anyone remember the people in this week's photo or where it was taken

and why?

Please call the Fort Erie Historical Museum at 905-894-5322, e-mail museum@forterie.on.ca, or visit us now that spring is here at 402 Ridge Rd., Ridgeway. We are open six days a week, from Sunday to Friday.

letters to the editor

Reader wants wagon returned

Dear Editor,

I have resided in Fort Erie for over 10 years now and sadly over the weekend of 29 and 30, my daughter's wooden wagon, with its winter skids on, was stolen from my front porch.

My daughter's name is Penelope, this wagon was purchased for her first birthday in November of last year.

To be honest, I don't think there has been a day pass by her that we did not use it to go outside and adventure during this long difficult winter.

As a single mother, who pays a mortgage and bills to keep a roof over her head, I do not have the disposable

income to repurchase this for her.

My daughter is now 16 months old and I was looking forward to putting on its wheels for the spring in anticipation of more wagon adventures with her.

Everyday, we leave the house she would point to the wagon, crawl into it and patiently wait, some days she's refused to get out of it.

This wagon doesn't just represent a full winter of lovely memories with her, but it was truly her pride and joy and someone has taken that from her.

I am trying very hard to understand why someone would do such a thing. Putting my anger aside, after reading this, I hope the person who took the wagon still feels that he or she is more deserving of this wagon than she is. If that's the case,

please keep it with my blessing. I would also like to offer that person the set of four wheels that go with it for the warm weather we are anticipating. I will leave them on my porch for you where you found her wagon.

My only hope is that it brings you the same joy it brought her. If however, you have a change of heart please rightfully return it to us, no questions asked.

Melanie Pester

Bylaws need more thought

Dear Editor,

It is about time the mayor and council of Fort Erie begin looking carefully at the zoning bylaw amendment appli-

cations submitted to the town. The next application that appeared in front of the council was Allison Woods on April 7.

Alliston Woods Phase two proposed zoning text changes located North of Garrison Rd. and east of Spears Rd. in Fort Erie are asking for over 10 bylaw amendments on their application. I believe the most critical amendments that affect every homeowner in the Town of Fort Erie are minimum front yard: from 6.7 m to 4 m, minimum side yard: from 3 m to 1.2 m, minimum exterior side yard: from 6.7 m to 3 m, maximum lot coverage: from 40% to 55%, and minimum rear yard: from 8m to 7.5m.

If you visit Hibbard St. and Prospect Point in Ridgeway, you will be shocked to see how close the town houses are to the road. This is just

one example of the negligence by town officials and everyone involved with new projects in our community.

I emailed the mayor in February and I received an emailed me back from him stating that Willow Trail Townhouses were placed closer to Hibbard St. than the minimum setback in error by the owners contractor, his understanding is that the reason for the error was that the owners survey incorrectly laid out the site.

Once the staff were made aware of the error, the application was provided the option of removing the foundations or to bring them into conformity with the Town's zoning bylaw. The owners obtained another minor variance for a reduction in front yard setback, subject to a number of conditions. One condition was a purchaser or tenant

was advised that the driveway for this property wasn't adequate to accommodate vehicular parking. Off-street parking would be provided within the at-grade garage.

Encroachments by vehicles onto town lands will not be permitted and parking infractions will be enforced. Each purchaser, tenants are not able to park in their own driveway without being ticketed.

These zoning bylaws were put in place in order to protect our community and to prevent this kind of thing from happening. Fort Erie residents don't want smaller front yards, smaller back yards, smaller side yards and less green space. Council and the Mayor should realize this and uphold these bylaws.

Jim Puhl
Crystal Beach

opinion page

The Bert Miller Nature Club honours Earth Day with special presentation

Earth Day is set aside in April to inspire awareness of and concern for Earth's environment.

The Fort Erie Public Library and the Bert Miller Nature Club partner at this time each year to present interesting and important information as a way of helping our community enjoy and appreciate our natural environment.

The topic for the Nature in Niagara series this year is Lake Erie's Sensational Shoreline, offered on Wednesday, April 16, at 7 p.m. at the library's Centennial Branch.

Bert Miller Nature Club member, Albert Garofalo, will highlight various biological and geological features that can be found along our beautiful shoreline.

A number of plant and animal species found along the shore are designated as either



Amy Roebuck
Fort Erie Public Library

special at risk or species of special concern that need to be preserved for future generations to enjoy. Garofalo, a scientist with years of experience in biological inventories, will also discuss restoration efforts that have been started on coastal habitats of the Great Lakes and their benefits to both landowners and the community at large.

For the past three years,

Garofalo has conducted scientific inventories of the shoreline from Fort Erie to Port Dover for the Bert Miller Nature Club through a grant provided by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources.

Albert has a unique way of engaging his listeners and inspiring them to explore the wonderful things that can be found along the Lake Erie coast.

The presentation is free and open to the public. For tickets or more information, contact the library at 905-871-2546. The library has resources for all ages on the environment, conservation and other topics relating to Earth Day.

Today is a busy day at the library, with the Crystal Ridge branch inviting young knitters to meet with experienced craftsmen at 6:30 p.m.,

while the Centennial branch is hosting Born to Read at 1:30 p.m. for babies and their grown-ups, teens invited at 3:30 p.m. for a book group, and the Thursday night film at 6:30 p.m.

The movie tonight is Inside Llewyn Davis, an unusual musical drama by the Coen brothers. Llewyn Davis follows a week in the life of a young folk singer as he navigates the Greenwich Village folk scene in 1961.

The title character is struggling to make it as a musician against seemingly insurmountable obstacles, some of them of his own making.

Llewyn Davis will encore Tuesday, April 15 at the Crystal Ridge branch, beginning at 2 p.m.

Next week's movie is August: Osage County with an all-star cast.

Lego fans can create some-

thing new at the Lego Maker Club on Saturday, April 12 at 2:30 p.m. at the Crystal Ridge branch.

There is no need to pre-register for this event, which will be repeated at the Centennial branch on April 28.

Members of the Harry Potter Club have been sorted into their houses, and now they can use their magic to conjure up some Butterbeer. This month's meeting is a taste test to find out which house can brew the best Butterbeer.

Students in Grades 5 and up are welcome to visit the Crystal Ridge branch on Tuesday, April 15 at 4 p.m. to find out.

Pre-registration is required, and the fee is \$2. New Hogwarts "scholars" are always welcome, at the Crystal Ridge branch on

Tuesday or at the Centennial branch on April 23 at 4 p.m.

While the Butterbeer is brewing there will be time to watch scenes from one of the Harry Potter films, or read a chapter in one of the books. Select a book, an audiobook or a movie in the series at any branch of the library, or online at www.fepc.ca.

A reminder that all branches of the Fort Erie Public Library will be closed on April 18 and 21.

All branches are open on April 19.

New hours, including Mondays at Crystal Ridge and Stevensville branches, and Fridays at Crystal Ridge, begin on Monday, April 28.

Amy Roebuck is the Community Services Coordinator at the Fort Erie Public Library.

The Hognose snake is well known in the Marcy Woods area and Fort Erie

Winter's over finally. Think summer, eh?

Wasaga Beach? We spent a week there a few summers this past August on the beautiful beach.

It is the home of the British sloop "Nancy" whose hull commemorates the War of 1812. The historic presentation was well done. As we left the historic site I picked up this nature lover's eye. "Wasaga Beach, home of the Hognose snake." To those readers who have been to Wasaga Beach you will recall the sandy bluffs that border Georgian Bay there. Hognose snakes like such a



Earl Plato

setting and they like American toads.

This article is about a snake that is most unusual. The Hognose snake is a Fort Erie resident. I know for I have seen them on the sandy

bluffs of Marcy Woods.

Area naturalist, Tim Seburn, and I saw four of these snakes near Malik's cabin several years ago on the forested sand dunes of Marcy Woods. I remember it well.

One hognose snake suddenly fell over faking death. It rolled over exposing its light coloured belly. It lay there with its tongue extended. Of course on our return the "dead" snake was gone to live another day.

The "snout" on the hognose is a sensor. It buries its head in the sand and it detects the body heat of toads. The hognose also feeds on mice, eggs and

insects.

I haven't seen this phenomenon. When threatened the hognose snake will spread their racks and raise their heads off the ground like a cobra and hiss.

Got the picture? "Puff adder" is a nickname for it. Misleading?

Adders found in Africa are deadly poisonous.

The hognose is not venomous.

Here is a story I was told from a resident on Matthews Road abutting Marcy Woods property. The man told me, as I recount, that his two daughters would cut through the Marcy farm property as a shortcut to Point Abino

school.

Then it happened. Three hognose snakes rose up like cobras with their loose skin flared out and hissing. The girls were terrified. No more shortcuts for them.

The hognose snakes portrayed in the Wasaga Beach folder did not look familiar to me.

I quote. "Hognose snakes are extremely variable in colour and pattern."

It is essentially a spotted snake at least the ones I saw.

They seemed to blend in with their surroundings.

Yes, I have handled a hognose. Joe Kenny of Fort Erie brought one out to Marcy



EARL PLATO Fort Erie Times
A Hognose snake.

Woods for us to see several years ago. Despite my looking I've seen none in recent years.

I am afraid that many on meeting this unique creature would want to dispatch it. Leave it alone.



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McDermott hopes to be elected to represent ward one

Sarah Ferguson
Fort Erie Times

George McDermott's top priorities are health care, improving business and making Fort Erie a desirable place to live.

"I have something to say and I am going to share my opinions. If people agree with me, then they'll vote for me," McDermott said.

If he isn't elected, McDermott will continue to stand up for the community and support it.

"I've been involved in politics in a number of ways and I've served on several different board of directors. I'm an advocate for Fort Erie and I always will be," McDermott said.

The lifelong Fort Erie resident is vying for a spot on council and hopes the community will elect him as the

ward one representative in the upcoming municipal election set for October.

Over the course of the last four decades, McDermott has been an active member of the community and he was recognized with a Queen's Diamond Jubilee medal for his community service.

He has served as a YMCA basketball coach for more than 20 years and he is a past president of the Fort Erie Minor Ball Association.

He has also assisted the Fort Erie Navy League as a fundraiser for their awards and camp program.

McDermott has been a member of a number of different boards including the Fort Erie Library Board and he served as an advocate on the Mayor's Hospital Task Force.

McDermott is no stranger

to working with politicians.

He worked with former MP Kim Craltor and Fort Erie Mayor Doug Martin on a number of issues such as fighting for health care and funding for the Fort Erie Race Track and Bridges Community Health Centre.

McDermott said there is a lot of work to be done in order to encourage business growth in Fort Erie.

"There's no doubt that we need a revival of the north end of town and we need to revive the Central Ave. bridge."

McDermott recalls his childhood when business on Jarvis St. was booming and he would like to see the downtown thriving once again.

"I remember my mom would give me \$25 to buy all my Christmas presents for others and I would go down



George McDermott

to Jarvis St." he said.

"I always got everything I needed and I had some

money left over."

Another concern for McDermott is the amount of empty school buildings like former Rose Seaton and Fort Erie elementary schools.

"My hope is that council will work with the District School Board of Niagara to find ways of unlocking the properties to see them used again," he said.

"We have to streamline commercial developments so we can get the shovel in the ground faster."

McDermott said the Kinsmen Pool is a vital part of the community and every effort to be made to see it open once again is one of his priorities.

He commended Ward 1 Coun. Stephen Passero on his efforts to revive the pool and he hopes Passero can finalize an agreement with the Fort Erie Underwater

Recovery Unit to see the pool open.

"If this partnership falls through, we need to continue to pursue reopening the pool," he said.

McDermott said Fort Erie's newest council should work together to improve Fort Erie.

"What we need are councillors that are consensus builders, not people who sit there and snipe at each other."

McDermott said he would be privileged to represent ward one in the new term on council.

"I have municipal experience and I believe my learning curve will be limited."

sarah.ferguson@sunmedia.ca

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A Night at the Movies



CHUCK STONE Special to The Times

From left, Abby Barnhart, Steven Smythe, Nathan Kacur, and Ralph Volpe recreated a scene from the well-loved *Wizard of Oz*. The youth were part of a show presented by Therapy and Alternatives for Special Children and Adults with Disabilities. The Ridgeway-based non-profit group provides programs and services for families with loved ones who have disabilities. Proceeds from the dinner and show, held at the Crystal Ridge Community Centre Friday and Saturday night, raised funds to assist TASC in continuing to offer its services to the Niagara region.

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Our Focus: Your Future



FORT ERIE "EARTH WEEK" APRIL 22ND TO 25TH, 2014

Fort Erie, a Town proud of its past, excited about today and building for tomorrow.

Every April 22nd, in workplaces, schools and communities all across Canada, millions of Canadians celebrate EARTH DAY. EARTH DAY activities teach people how small actions can add up to make big differences in their communities.

The Town of Fort Erie has declared April 22 to 25, 2014 "EARTH WEEK" and has further declared April 22, 2014 as EARTH DAY in the Town of Fort Erie.

Fort Erie residents are encouraged to participate in the Town of Fort Erie's organized neighbourhood litter pick-up during "EARTH WEEK". Meet your neighbours, pick-up and bag litter from your yards, neighbourhood Parks, vacant lots, ditches and roadsides.

During "EARTH WEEK" (from April 22 to 25, 2014) please call the Town of Fort Erie at (905) 871-1600 Extension 2466 to arrange for pick-up of the litter bags you and/or your community group has filled.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE ENERGY FIELD PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT

The Town of Fort Erie invites you to attend a Public Open House to view and provide input into proposals for the replacement of the existing playground equipment at Energy Field on:

Wednesday April 16, 2014

5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

**Fort Erie Town Hall
1 Municipal Centre Drive**

The existing playground equipment at Energy Field on Baron Drive will be replaced with new equipment that meets the requirements of the Canadian Standards Association and the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, in the summer of 2014. The new play equipment will be located in approximately the same location as the existing equipment, will provide a variety of features for users 2 to 12 years of age, and will be inclusive and accessible to all.

We invite you, and especially children that will use the playground, to participate in the selection of the play equipment.

For more information contact Signe Hansen, Manager of Parks and Open Space Development at 905 871-1600 ext. 2506 or shansen@forterie.on.ca.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMPETITION NO. 06-2014 DRAINAGE SUPERINTENDENT

As a key member of the Engineering Division appointed under the Drainage Act, you will identify, budget, plan, execute and project-manage the maintenance and repair of municipal drainage works. This includes inputting into the design, development and scope of drainage works; preparing and reviewing RFP's; conducting site visits and inspections; directing contractors and technicians; interacting with landlords and approving agencies; preparing reports and maintaining GIS records. For more information, go to www.town.forterie.on.ca under Town Hall, then click on Employment Opportunities. The deadline is 12:00 Noon on Friday, April 11, 2014

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL # FD-14P-HRES14 RESCUE/PUMPER FOR FORT ERIE FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Town of Fort Erie invites submissions for the design, construction and delivery of one (1) Rescue/Pumper capable of carrying hydraulic extrication equipment (Jaws of Life, Air Bags etc.), in addition to water supply, hose and pump to support the Town's Fire Department.

Sealed submissions addressed to Carolyn Kett will be received by the Customer Service Unit (CSU) at 1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie ON until

2:00 p.m. local time on THURSDAY MAY 15th, 2014

All formal and competitive bid opportunities are posted on the Town's Landing Page www.biddingo.com/forterie. Forward requests for hard copy documents to Bart Menage at bmenage@forterie.on.ca or call (905) 871-1600 ext. 2303.

The lowest of any submission not necessarily accepted.

Community and Development Services
Fire Department

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Our Focus: Your Future

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMPETITION NO. 10-2014 CHIEF BUILDING OFFICIAL

As a key member of our Community and Development Services team, you will manage/administer and continuously improve building processes, in accordance with the *Building Code Act* and related codes/standards and manage municipal law enforcement activities. Among other things, this includes interpreting/applying/enforcing building and fire codes; examining building plans; issuing permits; performing inspections; calculating and collecting development charges and; preparing work plans, schedules, budgets and reports. For more information, go to www.town.forterie.on.ca under Town Hall, then click on Employment Opportunities. The deadline is 12:00 Noon on Friday, April 25, 2014.

REQUEST FOR QUOTATION ISO-14Q-RTREE2

The Corporation of the Town of Fort Erie is inviting submissions from interested bidders to provide any and all labour, materials and equipment necessary to provide:

TREE TRIMMING SERVICES

Sealed submission clearly addressed to Purchasing will be received by the **Customer Service UNIT (CSU) at 1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie ON** until 2:00 p.m. local time on:

April 17th, 2014

Specific project details and requirements are provided within the bid document.

Interested bidders are asked to contact Natasha Pisano, Purchasing and Finance Clerk at (905) 871-1600 ext. 2321 or alternatively at npisano@forterie.on.ca to make suitable arrangements to pick up the quotation document.

The lowest of any submission not necessarily accepted.

Infrastructure Services - Operations

TOWN OF FORT ERIE BUFFALO ROAD SIDEWALK PROJECT (GARRISON ROAD TO DOMINION ROAD)

In November, 2012, Town Council approved the construction of a sidewalk on Buffalo Road from Orchard Avenue to Dominion Road as part of the Fort Erie Walking Web. At this time, preliminary design work is complete on two options for construction (east or west side of the roadway). Construction works are scheduled for this summer. The preliminary design work has been based on the following principles and considerations:

1. Design rationale and applicable standards
2. Safety considerations for school children/ general pedestrians (walking web) and the motoring public
3. Transportation Association of Canada guidelines
4. Environmental and drainage issues
5. Impact on residents
6. Ease of Use/Practicality/Convenience
7. Encroachments
8. Capital Cost

As part of the public consultation for this project a Public Information Centre (PIC) is being planned to provide interested parties with an opportunity to review the optional (west or east side) construction of the sidewalks along Buffalo Road design plans. Those attending the PIC will have an opportunity to meet with the Project Team, review the optional design and discuss issues related to the project, including existing conditions and environmental considerations.

Thursday, April 10th, 2014

4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Fort Erie Townhall Atrium

1 Municipal Centre Drive

Fort Erie, ON L2A 2S6

If you are unable to attend the PIC, but have comments or questions regarding the project, please contact the following:

Kelly Walsh, PEEng - Manager, Engineering Division

Town of Fort Erie

1 Municipal Drive

Fort Erie, Ontario L2A 2S6

Phone: (905) 871-1600 • Fax: (905) 871-6411

Email: kwash@town.forterie.on.ca

TENDER: 2014 FLEET REQUIREMENTS NEW 2013 or 2014

RFT # ISO-14T-U05014

RFT # ISO-14T-U01014

RFT # ISO-14T-R13014

RFT # ISO-14T-U02014

RFT # ISO-14T-R43014

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SINGLE AXLE DUMP CAB AND CHASSIS, COMPLETE WITH SANDER AND DUMP TRUCK, ONE-WAY SNOW PLOW, LEVELLING WING AND HYDRAULIC CONTROLS

Sealed submissions addressed to Carolyn Kett will be received by the Customer Service Unit (CSU) at 1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie ON until

2:00 P.M. local time on: THURSDAY MAY 1, 2014

Tender documents may be obtained commencing **Thursday April 10, 2014**, at The J.L. Gibson Operations Centre, 1818 Pettit Rd, Fort Erie ON.

Please note that all Town of Fort Erie's formal competitive bid opportunities are posted on the Town's Bidding Landing Page at www.biddinggo.com/forterie The Corporation of the Town of Fort Erie reserves the right to reject any or all tenders and the lowest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted.

Infrastructure Services
Operations Division

Salute to Volunteers 2014

Fort Erie resident Charlene Heckman remembers many of the people she has helped through the years. She has kept photographs and memorabilia to remember them. SARAH FERGUSON/FORT ERIE TIMES

Volunteer shares her experiences helping others in need

Charlene Heckman has touched the lives of many people through her volunteer work. The 71-year-old taught elementary school students for more than 30 years and has spent much of her time giving back to the community.

In the early 1990s, Heckman played an instrumental role in setting up the Fort Erie Multicultural Centre. She quietly volunteered her time and opened her home to house refugees until they could find employment and housing. In 2009, Heckman founded a weekly support group, which is run out of her own home. The group is called the Brain Empowerment team and it has grown from a handful of people to more than 20. The BET is open to people with health issues and their caregivers to openly discuss their stories, while educating themselves about the brain and neurological impairments.

For her contribution to the community, Heckman is being honoured for helping people in need in the first annual Volunteer Recognition Awards sponsored by the Fort Erie Times.

The Times sat down with Heckman to talk about her volunteer experience and what inspired her to give back to the community.

Question: How did you manage the stress of hosting immigrants into your home?

Answer: We had our ups and downs. It always seemed when we needed some things that people were always very generous and would bring in clothing and diapers and anything we needed.

Q: Between teaching and volunteering, how did you manage it all while raising a family?

A: Some people said we were crazy but it always seemed like we had boundless energy when we needed it.

Q: What was it like hosting immigrant families in your home?

A: We didn't realize what we were doing was illegal when we picked the refugees up from the airport in Buffalo. They were considered illegal aliens until they got to Canada. Until Casa El Norte opened in 1990, we had no money and we took them in ourselves.

Q: What did you do to find support from the community to continue housing immigrants?

A: We spoke in churches in the region and we talked about the immigrants' plight and their needs for medical care, school and housing.

Q: Do you remember the first family you brought into your home?

A: I remember them because it was Saturday before Easter and we were bringing the new family home. My first family was a

husband named Orlando and his wife Angel and at the time they had two children. They lived with me for three months and we had to learn how to do everything from enrolling the kids into school and finding jobs for their parents.

Q: How do you think you changed the lives of immigrants who housed?

A: It gives you a real high to know you can help someone. The refugees that I've helped have always been an important part of my life. I still get Christmas cards and I still maintain contact with many of them. Once you get involved, they will always be part of your life. And they still remember the first people that picked them up. You might not always remember them, but they always remember you.

Q: Was it strange for many of the immigrants that came to stay in your home?

A: One of the things I found interesting was when many of them came to Canada for the first time; they were not at all familiar with canned goods. In Central America, everything was fresh and they didn't need to worry about what to eat. They didn't need to use canned food. Many of them also weren't used to the packages that some food came in.

Q: What was one of the biggest struggles you faced?

A: One of the struggles I faced was when one of the refugees would be turned down. I knew some of them that were here for years and years and they would be sent back to their homes. Some of them had lived here for five or six years and they had to go back.

Q: What did your family think of you volunteering your time, your home and your heart to help other people?

A: My husband was very supportive of me and he accepted these families into our house.

Q: Why is it important to volunteer?

A: When people retire, they sometimes realize that they're bored and they shouldn't be. If you don't need to work, I believe in letting the younger people who need the income have the job because there are organizations that need volunteers."

Q: Why is the Brain Empowerment Team important to you?

A: My husband Bob was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease and at that point I couldn't get out of the house anymore but I wanted to do something to help. BET was something I could do in the comfort of my own living room and I could help my husband if he needed it. In the beginning, it was for people who had a stroke, or a heart attack and we've since branched out to include anyone with a chronic illness, and their caregivers.

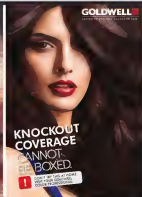
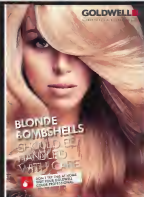
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Salute to Volunteers 2014

Working With Seniors

BOB BROWN



In the category for Working with Seniors, Bob Brown is being recognized during this year's Volunteer Recognition Awards.

Bob is a member of the Beachcombers Senior Citizens Association and has served as president for the last six years. Giving back to the community is important to Bob, which is why he served as a volunteer firefighter for the Fort Erie Fire Department at Station Six for more than 20 years.

He also served for five years for the Ridgeway Crystal Beach Kinsmen Club when it ran a volunteer ambulance service. Bob said he enjoys working with people and volunteering gives him purpose.

Working With The Youth

RUSSELL WILSON



Volunteers who give their time to encourage youth and help them succeed are an important part of the community.

This year's Volunteer Recognition Award for working with you goes to Russell Wilson who started coaching basketball in Fort

Erie when the first program started in 1992. He continues to be an active coach and referee. He was also coached the Ridgeway Crystal Beach High School junior boys team for one season.

Russell has donated more than 1,000 hours of his time to coach and referee youth.

He has served on the board of directors for girls' football for eight years and has coached house league and travel teams for 12 years. He also trains and recruits umpires.

Russell enjoys seeing his teams win but more importantly, he likes to see his players improve as athletes.

Protecting The Environment

GEORGE JARDINE



Protecting the environment and safeguarding it for future generations is vital to ensure a vibrant and healthy community.

In the category of Protecting the Environment, this year's Volunteer Recognition Award goes to Black Creek resident George Jardine for a variety of initiatives he led to protect the environment.

Jardine is the founding member of the Black Creek Community Association and he was the prime mover in acquiring the former Black Creek Public School and turning it into a community centre.

His long list of accomplishments include founding the Fort Erie Friendship Festival held on Canada Day, and working Bingos for Community Program Outreach Erie in the 1980s. He also served as chairperson of Citizens Against Unsightly Sewage Effluent, a group for opposition on the sewage lagoons.

For the past three years, Jardine has also served as administrator for the Green Party of Niagara.

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Salute to Volunteers 2014

Cultural & Historical Contributions

RUBY SMITH



Preserving history for future generations is an important task because it shapes the foundation of a community.

In the categories of Historical Contributions, and Cultural Arts, this year's Volunteer Recognition Awards goes to Ruby Smith for her dedication to recording and raising awareness for Fort Erie's culture and history.

Ruby is a member of the Heritage Arts Legacy, a non-profit group in Fort Erie dedicated to preserving the town's culture and sports history.

No one has done more to further the painstakingly long and difficult task of identifying and recognizing the town's rich history with little or no resources.

Through the Heritage Arts Legacy, Ruby has been able to organize a variety of events such as art exhibits and other events that have honoured local athletes to bring awareness and inspire future generations.

The Heritage Arts Legacy is her legacy and has undoubtedly led to the pursuit of sports and athletic greatness by our next generation.

Education

KAY GREEN



In the category of Education, this year's Volunteer Recognition Award goes to Kay Green for her contribution in educating adults that are learning English as a second language.

Kay is the chairman and an active volunteer with the Adult Literacy Council of Fort Erie.

Kay also spends her time volunteering for other organizations. She sits on the board of directors for the local branch of Habitat for Humanity.

Kay volunteers for the annual Communities in Bloom and even opens her own garden to the public.

She has also assisted with a number of events for the Sanctuary Centre for the Arts in Ridgeway.



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Salute to Volunteers 2014

Sports & Recreation



**CATHY & MIKE
FOSTER**

Sports and recreation play an important role in ensuring that a community's youth stay active and fit. For their efforts with the Fort Erie Minor Ball Association,

Cathy and Mike Foster are the recipients of the Volunteer Recognition Award for sports and recreation.

Mike and Cathy first joined the minor ball organization almost 20 years ago when their daughter Lisa started playing and they continued volunteering their time to the sport ever since. Mike has volunteered his time as a coach, convener, vice-president and president. Cathy has stood by his side and helped as secretary and with registration.

Working With Those In Need



**CHARLENE
HECKMAN**

In the category of working with people in need, this year's Volunteer Recognition Award goes to Fort Erie resident Charlene Heckman for her work in the 1990s which was instrumental in forming the Multicultural Centre.

Heckman spent many days and nights working to help others in need. She was the founding member of the Central American Refugee Committee, which was a small group committed to responding to the needs of homeless refugees arriving in the country. She housed refugees in her own home during their interim period between entering the country and finding more suitable accommodations. Heckman welcomed refugees into her home until Casa El Norte was formed in Fort Erie.

Heckman also started a support group for people dealing with personal health issues and their caregivers. She is also a member of the Greater Fort Erie Adult Literacy Council.

Service Clubs



**KINETITE
CLUB**

The Kinetite Club of Fort Erie has been recognized for its volunteerism for the Volunteer Recognition Awards.

The Kinetite Club of Fort Erie is a very hardworking group which consists of female volunteers. The group has been active since 1946 and raises money through golf tournaments, penny drives, movie nights, food collections and other fundraisers. All of the money is used to benefit community organizations such as the Salvation Army Mobile Unit, Red Cross Blood Clinics, Meals on Wheels, St. George's Food Bank and many more causes.

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Salute to Volunteers 2014

Working With Those With Special Needs PAT AND MIKE CHEVALIER



Pat and Mike Chevalier are known for their contributions in working with youth with special needs.

In the category of helping people with special needs, the Chevaliers have been recognized for their efforts with this year's Volunteer Recognition Award.

For the last three years, the Chevaliers have run a bowling group for youth with special needs at Carroll's Bowling Lanes. They offer year-end awards and pizza parties to the participants. Each bowler receives an award so no youth feels left out. Each bowler pays for his or her own games and shoes, but the Chevaliers pay for the year-end banquet and awards with money from their own pockets.

The Chevaliers are known for their accepting nature and the love that they give to each person involved in the bowling league.

Volunteers under 21



ALAEANA BARBER

In the category of Volunteers Under 21, this year's Volunteer Recognition Award goes to Alaela Barber for her dedication and commitment to serve

Community Living Fort Erie.

Alaela began as a co-op student with the organization in 2012 and she was responsible for assisting staff with their duties in a residential setting.

After her co-op, Alaela stayed with the organization as a volunteer through the Leisure Buddy program because she developed a special relationship with one of Community Living's clients, a woman named Chantel.

Alaela encourages Chantel, who was once a timid and anxious young lady, and takes her to places such as the YMCA for leisure activities.

Alaela is deserving of the award because it is not often that students continue to work with Community Living once their placements are complete. Alaela realizes she made a valuable connection with someone with special needs and continues to volunteer her time and energy.

Community Events



CATHY DENNAHOWER

Cathy Dennahower has left an important mark on the community. The lifelong Fort Erie resident cares deeply for other people and

the Town of Fort Erie.

Cathy is always ready to volunteer and to help others and she is one of this year's recipients of the Volunteer Recognition Awards in the category of Community Events.

Cathy is currently the chairman of the Fort Erie Wall of Fame Awards Committee. She works closely with the Fort Erie Kinsmen in organizing a special awards recognition event.

Cathy has been both a volunteer and committee chairman of the Fort Erie Winterfest which ran for many years before it was discontinued due to lack of funding. She was also a significant member of the committee for the preservation of the Point Abino Lighthouse.

Cathy is currently an active member of several political organizations and remains ready and willing to do her part to help Fort Erie.



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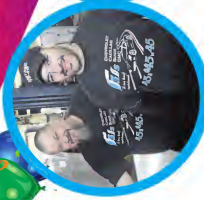
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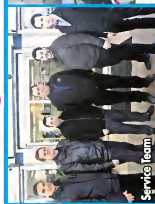
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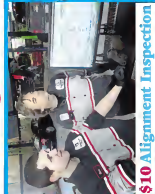
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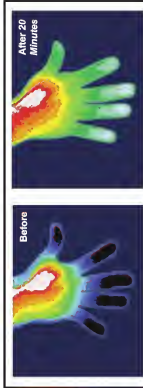
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Swan's story tells of family's evolution over the course of 150 years

➤ Author talks about her book, *My Ghosts*, on April 18

Sarah Ferguson
Fort Erie Times

My Swan's new novel, *My Ghosts*, tells the story of how a family evolves over 150 years.

She will discuss how *My Ghosts* unearths long forgotten secrets and captures moments that impact the family for generations during the Ridgeway Reads Spring Author Series on April 18 at Ridgeway Crystal Beach High School at 7 p.m. in Ridgeway.

Swan said her novel is about a household of Scottish orphans that try to make their way in Toronto in 1819.

"The book traces the family and their descendants. Part of it is set during and after the First World War and in the 1970s," Swan explained.

"It's not a straightforward narrative, but everything connects," she added.

Swan was inspired to write the novel when she began researching her family's history.

"I had an idea that I was going to put together a present for my mother's 75th birthday. I never did finish it, but I learned a lot about my mother's family and how they were based in Toronto after they came from Scotland."

Swan said many of her family members worked in a telegraph office.

"Telegraphs interest me. One of the things I find interesting about the 19th century is how technology changed," Swan said.

"When you think about the beginning of the 19th

century, there was no electricity, no phones, no cars. There was huge technological leaps that people would have been adjusting to."

Swan said people from the past and the present have different experiences and each think differently "because they don't have the same knowledge."

Swan is looking forward to sharing her story at the spring reading series.

"Like a lot of writers, I'm not really public and it will be really nice," she said.

"It's great to meet readers, talk to people and make connections. When you realize you've done something that actually resonates with people who picked it up and read it, it's gratifying."

For more information about Swan and her other novels visit maryswan.ca

Tickets are \$5 at the door, or \$25 to become a member of the Ridgeway Reads Literary Society and all spring and summer reading



EMMA PORTER Special to The Times

My Swan will discuss her book *My Ghosts* at the Ridgeway Reads Spring Author Series on April 18 at Ridgeway Crystal Beach High School.

series events are free.

For more information

about the reading series and upcoming events visit online

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**Angelo Ventresca,
Service Manager**

RETIREMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

Douglas A. Waines, D.V.M., founding owner and director of Borderview Veterinary Hospital Professional Corporation, Fort Erie, ON wishes to formally announce his retirement. Borderview Veterinary Hospital continues to serve our local area under the leadership of Jonathan McTaggart, D.V.M.

"I sincerely want to thank all the wonderful people from the Greater Fort Erie and WNY areas for their trust and patronage over the past 37 years of my practice at Borderview Veterinary Hospital."

"It is with pride and satisfaction that I accept this transition in my life. I will truly miss being a part of so many lives and the potency of their human/animal bonds. I will miss the dedication and camaraderie of my colleagues and staff. However, I will especially miss all the unique companion animals that I have been so fortunate to touch. That touch has extended into my heart where it will be cherished forever. If I could do it over, I would be a veterinarian again."

Dr. Waines' professional career spanned 40 years. He practiced in Halifax, NS prior to establishing Borderview Veterinary Hospital, Fort Erie, ON in 1977. He leaves veterinary medicine with Emeritus Status, the highest compliment from his licensing body, the College of Veterinarians of Ontario.

Fort Erie will always be my home. Thank you to everyone!

Douglas A. Waines, D.V.M.



HAPPY RETIREMENT DOUG!

Dr. Johnathan McTaggart and the staff of Borderview Veterinary Hospital congratulate Dr. Douglas Waines on his recent retirement. We thank him for his many years of commitment to the pets and pet owners of the Greater Fort Erie area as the founder and senior veterinarian at Borderview Veterinary Hospital. All of us at Borderview have benefited from our various relationships with him as a progressive veterinarian, mentor, "boss", and friend. Although his presence with us will be missed, we know he will be busy enjoying time with his family, friends and his motorcycle adventures.

We wish him all the best in this new phase of his life.

Sincerely,

THE BORDERVIEW VETERINARY HOSPITAL TEAM



Front Row - Rosemary, Dave the Dog, Melissa D

Back Row - Melissa B, Dr. Busche, Darla, Dr. McTaggart, Sesselce, Dr. Andrews, Karyn, Dr. Waller

BORDERVIEW VETERINARY HOSPITAL

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Learning to protect our healthy smiles



SARAH FERGUSON Fort Erie Times

From left, early learning kindergarten students Dalton Spears and Gavin Orcutt walk through a display of a mouth. The students were among more than 50 at St. Philomena Catholic Elementary School that recently learned about their mouth health during an presentation from Ridgeway dentist William Schneider and his wife Laura.

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Peace Bridge officials intercept drugs at border crossing

Sarah Ferguson
Fort Erie Times

The Canadian Border Services announced last Friday that CBSA officers have seized about 73 kg of marijuana at the Peace

Bridge in Fort Erie.

The driver of a commercial vehicle arrived at the Peace Bridge a truckload of okra on March 20. After a secondary examination, officers found 61 packages of vacuum-sealed marijuana

and arrested the driver. The driver and the drugs were turned over to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

"I am very proud of the work performed by CBSA officers," said Rick

Comerford, regional director general, CBSA southern Ontario region.

"Our officers are the first line of defence in protecting Canadians and keeping our communities safe from criminal activity associated

with the smuggling of illegal drugs."

Anyone with information about suspicious cross-border

activity can contact the CBSA Border Watch line at 1-888-502-9860.

sarah.ferguson@sunmedia.ca

McGuire: OPP can't provide same level of service

Allan Benner
OM Agency Niagara

Niagara Regional Police Chief Jeff McGuire said there'd be a hefty price tag associated with dismantling the local police service to replace it with the Ontario Provincial Police.

And even if the region ultimately does make the change, he said Niagara residents would not receive the same level of service as they do now.

McGuire said the NRP "provides an exemplary and professional policing service to the citizens of Niagara" for \$700 per household, and the OPP can't do the same job when charging about half that price.

McGuire was referring to a recent decision by regional councillors at a corporate services committee meeting, asking for regional reports comparing the costs of the two police services.

Regional councillors asked staff to provided them with a copy of a Feb. 9, 2006 report exploring the costs to the OPP, as well as a report about statements made by former OPP Commissioner Chris Lewis, proposing a cost of about \$360 per household to provide police services.

"The \$360 that's been quoted by the OPP, that's for a basic service. They absolutely cannot provide the same service—not even close to it in my opinion—at that dollar cost that we provide to the citizens of Niagara for the \$700 per household cost."

While reviewing the region's 2006 report, McGuire said he "noticed there's a considerable, very extensive cost in regards to ever considering dismantling the Niagara Regional Police Service. We absolutely don't support that."

That report, written by former

regional solicitor Michael Kyne, said it would cost \$28.7 million just to dismantle the NRP.

It would mean the elimination of about 255 jobs, mostly civilian positions, leading to severance payments estimated at \$11.5 million, as well as \$14.4 million more for payouts for accumulated sick time, leaves and banked time.

There would be additional costs associated with transitioning to the OPP, such as new uniforms, training and weapons. The NRP uses Glock pistols and the OPP use SIG Sauer side-

arms.

The reports are to be presented at the April 23 corporate services committee meeting. Regional staff will use that information as a basis to develop a new report, comparing current costs of the NRP and OPP to be presented at an upcoming committee of the whole meeting.

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LUC73

An egg–cellent time for everyone

The Last Chance Horse and Pony Rescue is hosting its annual Easter open house this Saturday.

The event runs from noon to 5 p.m. There will be free egg hunts beginning at 3 p.m. for children 13 and under. Other events include egg decorating, horse rides, a bake table and penny sale.

There will prizes for best egg decorations and the for the lucky person who finds the golden egg.

A photographer will be on hand to take pictures of children with the horses for \$5.

Donations will be accepted for the Last Chance Horse and Pony Rescue at 4269 Rebstock Rd., in Crystal Beach. The rescue cares for thoroughbred horses after they finish their careers. The sanctuary also takes in unwanted or injured horses and nurses them back to health.

For more information call Sharon Allen at 905-894-8262.

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Learning through magic

Sarah Ferguson
Fort Erie Times

Behind the laughter and
the magic tricks, Brent and

Sarah Nicholls had an important message for Stevensville Public School students last Thursday morning.

"We teach students about the four secrets of magic: believe it is possible, believe in yourself, you're not alone and find your magic," Brent Nicholls said.

The Fort Erie native, known to children as IncredibleBrent, travels to schools across Ontario with his wife, Sarah, to entertain children and teach them about the effects of bullying.

"As much as the show is about anti-bullying, it's about confidence," Nicholls explained.

"Confidence and bullying go hand-in-hand. Kids who are self confident are less likely to be bullied and they are less likely to bully."

Nicholls said there is a difference between calling someone a name or hurting their feelings and bullying.



SARAH FERGUSON Fort Erie Times

Fort Erie native Brent Nicholls, known as IncredibleBrent, showed Grade 3 Stevensville Public School student a magic trick last Thursday morning during Nicholls' anti-bullying magic show.

"Bullying is when it's repeated. The real issue is when someone is being repeatedly picked on. We make sure to define what bullying is, and not just any-

thing is bullying," he said.

The show is meant to empower students and give them the tools to deal with bullying.

"One of the most important

tools we share is to report the

bully if you are being

bullied," Nicholls said.

Nicholls said most children who

attend the show think his wife

Sarah, known to children as

Super Sarah, is an assistant and not a

other magician.

"She has a really important part in the show as a

great role model for young girls,"

Nicholls said about his wife.

Nicholls said he began working as an

entertainer with his wife on a cruise

line.

"We would do more general

entertainment and dress up like

scientists,"

Nicholls said.

"I got the idea for our anti-bullying magic show from my days in elementary school. I was always very inspired by speakers who would come into the school and speak to us about bullying."

Instead of "talking at children," Nicholls said he wanted to develop an interactive show to entertain and delight children while teaching them a valuable lesson.

"Self confidence is the main focus of our show. Bullying is such a big deal for children and the more we started looking into it, we realized there was a connection," he said.

"I think everyone has experiences. Everyone is involved in bullying some way. With myself, I'm guilty of both. Something you get caught up in when you're a kid."

Carrie McNeil, a teacher at Stevensville Public School, said the Nicholls performed three shows at the school.

The performances were paid for by the students through the sale of Kindness Cookies.

McNeil said students are welcome to purchase Kindness Cookies and send them to other students to be kind to each other. The cookie sales are meant to promote friendship and to raise awareness against bullying.

For more information about Nicholls' show, visit online at www.theantibullyinmagicshow.com.

sarah.ferguson@sunmedia.ca

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corporations and their ecological responsibilities. A poster contest followed focusing on the issue with

the winners receiving a refillable water bottle. The entire student body then made the pledge to support the

school's campaign to drink tap water, via their hydration station, instead of bottled waters. All students and staff of

the school signed the pledge and the banner hangs in the school's front hall as a reminder to all who enter the building.

St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School
Special to The Times

April saw the beginning of St. Joseph School's Ban the Water Bottle Campaign.

As a Gold level certified Eco School, St. Joseph was looking for a way to reduce their carbon footprint.

Principal Lorrie MacKenzie said the school "has installed a permanent hydration station in September and the students have embraced the idea of refilling their water bottles in order to be eco-friendly."

But it's still an ongoing concern within the school, she added. Many people like the convenience of buying bottled water but when the water bottle companies transport their bottles, they produce large amounts of greenhouse gas emissions—this leads to climate change, which is bad for the environment.

People often think that by using plastic water bottles, it's easier to recycle. But actually it's filling up the landfills more than you think. 80% of water bottles end up in landfills which means that for every 10 bottles of water we drink, only two end up in the recycle bin. Most people think that bottled water is much safer and healthier than tap water. But bottled water is not tested as frequently as tap water, therefore tap water is cleaner.

The campaign kick-off included an assembly where students watched a YouTube video



ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL Special to The Times
Eco Team members hold the school pledge. From left, John Arnot, Principal Lorrie MacKenzie, Stella Poirier, Lauren Wilson, and Valerie Brunning.

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LARRY BOGGIO
D.Ph.S., Ph.D., M.Sc.

As a result of new regulations governing the practice of pharmacy in Ontario, pharmacists are now able to be more deeply involved in your medications and management of your medical condition. This new regulation came into effect last October allowing pharmacists to make use of their unique knowledge. This is great news for both pharmacists and you, their patients. It will allow pharmacists to be an even more integral part of your medication management and it will provide you with greater convenience as pharmacists are easily accessible in the community.

There are five main areas that these changes will affect:

1. Pharmacists can prescribe several effective medications to help you quit smoking. Patients who may wish to try the method of quitting can now be assessed by their pharmacist—who will use their professional judgement to decide if it is right for you. This means that you will not have to wait to see your doctor in order to get on the path to becoming smoke-free and the pharmacist can be involved throughout this sometimes difficult process.
1. Pharmacists may be able to renew your prescriptions without you having to see your doctor first. Your condition and your medications must be stable. For example, this may apply to patients who have well-managed chronic conditions like diabetes or high blood pressure. This new regulation does not apply to narcotics and similar substances and does not eliminate the need to see your doctor for proper follow-up and monitoring.
2. Pharmacists may also make certain changes/adaptations to your doctor's prescription if necessary based on professional judgement. For example, they may change the dosage form (tablet/capsule/liquid) or they could alter the dosing regimen and possibly even the dose to suit you better. As always, any changes would be done with your consent and the pharmacist would share them with your doctor.
1. Pharmacists can now be of even greater assistance in helping to demonstrate how to use your devices. If you are a patient who uses an inhaler or has self-administered injections, your pharmacist can now use the real device to show you how to use it, rather than using a model one. Pharmacists who are able to administer injections in order to teach you how to use them have completed a training program.
1. Specially trained pharmacists can administer the flu vaccine to patients five years and older. This will provide patients with more locations and greater ease of access to the vaccine.

As usual, your pharmacist will make these decisions based on your specific situation, so it is very important to give them as much information about yourself as you can. They need to know about all of the medications you are taking, including anything over-the-counter or any vitamins/minerals that you use. Also it is important to talk to your pharmacist about your lifestyle (the foods you eat and the exercise you do) so they can get the full picture in order to make the best decisions for you.

Pharmacists have always been a wonderful source of information and support for patients regarding how to best manage their medicines and their medical conditions. Now that the role of pharmacists has expanded to allow them to have more involvement with their patients, it will be easier than ever for patients to maintain good control of their conditions and medications.

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Whalen jury ready to begin deliberations in murder trial

Karena Walter
QMI Agency Niagara

Roseanne Whalen was reckless and indirectly caused her daughter's death by exposing Marissa to a lover who continuously abused the girl, the Crown argued Monday.

She knew Rainbow Hill would end up killing Marissa," assistant Crown attorney Timothy Hill told a jury in a closing address Monday.

Hill argued Whalen's actions before, during and after Marissa's death in Fort Erie prove the 25-year-old mother is guilty of second-degree murder.

But Whalen's lawyer Geoffrey Hadfield told jurors evidence shows Whalen did not appreciate

the risk to her child because of an array of learning difficulties a psychologist testified existed.

"If the degree of impairment is so great that the Crown hasn't proven she had the requisite intent, you must acquit her," Hadfield told jurors.

The jury was expected to start deliberations at Hamilton's John Sopinka courthouse Tuesday, after Judge Robert Reid gave them instructions.

Two-year-old Marissa Whalen was killed July 29, 2011, in the Emerick Ave. apartment her mother and Rainbow Hill shared.

The jury has heard Marissa was killed in the bathroom by Hill and secretly buried near Brantford on Six Nations territory in Ohsweken later

that night.

She was reported missing Oct. 8, 2011, and her remains were discovered Oct. 16, 2011.

Rainbow Hill is serving time for second-degree murder.

Hadfield said the Crown has not established Whalen as guilty of murder or manslaughter.

He said evidence is highly persuasive that not too long into the relationship between Whalen and Hill began, Whalen found herself to be a battered spouse. He said Hill had control of Whalen even at an early stage in their relationship, and had the strength to manipulate Whalen. When the couple parted ways, Hadfield said, things went well and Marissa was thriving.

But Whalen moved back in with

Rainbow Hill because she loved her.

"She's in love. She's Roseanne Whalen in love. And she's seduced. Rainbow said she led her on. I suggest it's not so hard to lead Roseanne Whalen on."

Hadfield said there was evidence Whalen was an exemplary mom up to the first week of July, when something horrific happened and the child was injured somehow. The baby was taken to Rainbow Hill's mother's house because she was so badly bruised she couldn't go out.

Yet Whalen stayed with Rainbow.

"She's under the thrall of Rainbow. She loved her and she loved her irrationally," Hadfield said.

"Rainbow has this ability to smooth things over and to make things right, to

make the next day better."

Hadfield said Rainbow was the master of the house, instructing her father and children to keep their mouths shut about Marissa's death. Whalen was following instructions like everyone else, he said.

"You will not find my client's fingerprints on any of this in terms of the planning and execution," Hadfield said.

Whalen's stories after the death were a pointer to her intelligence, he said.

Psychologist Dr. Giorgio Iacqua said she had learning disabilities. Her teachers and cousin felt that way, too.

But Hill told the jury to out-right reject Iacqua's testimony, arguing he didn't do necessary background research or acquaint him-s elf with the evidence in the case.

He said Iacqua testified Marissa functioned academically as an eight-year-old, but contradicted his findings when he recommended she go out to finish high school when her legal problems are over.

Far from a follower with out sufficient intellect, Hill said, Whalen was "playing the police in interviews, telling half-truths and outright lies."

"Roseanne Whalen is not only a liar, but cunning and streetwise," Hill said.

He said Whalen lied to her mother for more than two months about Marissa's whereabouts, lied to the man she says is the father of Marissa by telling him she died in a car crash and lied to police dispatchers and detectives.

Whalen helped hide injuries to Marissa caused by Rainbow, described in text messages and in testimony by Rainbow and her son, he said.

"She did something worse than nothing. She was an active participant in concealing the baby's injuries from public view."

Hill said Whalen was not afraid of Rainbow and never was. She told a police officer she was "mouthy" with Rainbow and wasn't going to be like other girlfriends who would say "how high" when Rainbow said "jump."

Hill noted it was Whalen's idea to meet Rainbow on a dark beach at night for a police intercept and she showed no fear.

Whalen's actions in hiding Marissa and herself when paramedics showed up at the house immediately after the girl suffered her fatal injury show Whalen's true allegiance, Hill said.

They are not the actions of a follower, or someone of weak intellect controlled by another person, Hill said.

"These are the actions of a cunning person out to save her own skin at all costs."

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APRIL 15

INSIDE LLEWYN DAVIS

Follow a week in the life of a young folk singer as he navigates the Greenwich Village folk scene of 1961. Guitar in tow, huddled against the unforgiving New York winter, he is struggling to make it as a musician against seemingly insurmountable obstacles—some of them of his own making. Directed by the Coen brothers. Fort Erie Public Library Crystal Ridge branch. 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

HARRY POTTER CLUB

Registration is open at Hogwarts and they want you! This month it's a Butterbeer taste test! Which house can brew the best Butterbeer? We'll have to see. Grades 5 and up. Pre-Registration is required. \$2. Fort Erie Public Library Crystal Ridge branch. 4 p.m. to 5 p.m.

APRIL 16

NATURE IN NIAGARA

The Bert Miller Nature Club visits the library to share news and information about the Niagara River Shoreline. Free. Fort Erie Public Library, Centennial Branch. 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.

APRIL 23

EUROPEAN RIVER CRUISE

Join Rod and Laurie McDowell as they share images and stories from along some of the great rivers in Europe. Free. Fort Erie Public Library Centennial branch. 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.

ONGOING

SOCIAL GROUP

Drop in for a warm beverage and some lively conversation the first and third Tuesday of every month. 10 a.m. to noon. Bridges Community Health Centre, Fort Erie, 1485 Garrison Rd. No registration required. For more information call 905-871-7621.

GROCERY STORE TOURS

Discover how to make healthy food choices, read labels and shop on a budget. Offered by Bridges Community Health Centre Fort Erie. Tours will be scheduled based on expressed interest. Call 905-871-7621 for more information.

BORN TO READ

For babies newborn through those about to take their first steps and their parent or caregiver. Bounces, tickles, rhymes, music, movement, book sharing and more. Participants should bring a small blanket

and toy. \$2 per session. Pre-registration not required. Fort Erie Public Library Centennial branch. Thursdays, 1:30 p.m.

READY TO READ

Join us for reading, writing, talking, singing and playing - the five fundamental skills that get children Ready to Read! For children ages 1.5 and up. \$2 per session. Pre-Registration not required. Fort Erie Public Library, Centennial branch, Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m.; Crystal Ridge branch, Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.

BRAIN EMPOWERING

Team support group for individuals with chronic health conditions, survivors of stroke, those with

neurological impairments and volunteers. Weekly meetings in Fort Erie include speakers reading about health issues and discussions. New members welcome. Call 905-871-7510 or 905-871-3948.

NIAGARA ACTION

For Animals Bazaar every Saturday and Sunday and statutory holiday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the County Fair Mall. Proceeds to benefit local animals in need. For more information call Patricia Naylor at 905-871-7493.

KNITTING

Want to learn to knit or practice knitting? Ages 8-14 years old. Free in

partnership with the Bowen Road Women's Institute. All materials are supplied. Fort Erie Public Library Crystal Ridge branch. Thursdays, 6:30 p.m.

PARENT NETWORKING

A monthly support group for caregivers of children, youth or adults with autism, a developmental disability, or mental health issues held the last Wednesday of the month, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Bridges Community Health Centre, Fort Erie. 1485 Garrison Rd. Call 905-871-7621 for more information.

BOWEN ROAD WOMEN'S

Institute meets third Thursday of the month at People's Memorial Church, Ridgeway, at 7 p.m.

WRITERS' GROUP

Fort Erie Public Library staffer and published author Derek Clendenen offers tips and advice to writers of all ages, teen through senior. Bring your work, bring your questions. Free. First Wednesday of every month, 6:30 p.m., Centennial.

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Youngsters take championship title



FRAN VELLA-METTE Special to The Times
The Avalanche defeated the Flames 5-3 in the Ridgeway Ball Hockey championship game on April 2 at the Ridgeway Hockey arena.

U12's win tourney in overtime



FRAN VELLA-METTE Special to The Times
The Under 12 Ridgeway Ball Hockey team won in overtime against the Sens, 8-7, at the Ridgeway hockey rink in ridgeway on March 31.

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KATIE BURNISON Special to The Times

The Crystal Ridge Skating Club held its annual carnival on March 30 to celebrate the end of the season. This year's theme was Around the World. Registration for the skating club will begin in August at the Crystal Ridge Arena. For more information e-mail crystalridgeskatingclub@webs.com



Have you HEARD?

by Krista Miller, M.G.S.
Registered by CAGBPA
Doctor in Audiology, Audiologist

ARE PARENTS READY FOR "THE TALK"?

While parents are charged with the responsibility of educating their children about potential dangers they face, not all parents are comfortable sitting down with their kids to have a serious discussion. In fact, recent research shows that nearly 70% of the parents surveyed had not spoken with their children about this danger of noise exposure because they thought that their children's actual risk of hearing damage was low. However, one in eight American adolescents and teenagers has a type of hearing loss linked to overexposure to loud noises. The good news is that almost 70% of parents indicated a willingness to limit their children's exposure to music and loud noise if it would protect their teenager's hearing.

The key to hearing loss prevention starts with the individual. Avoiding prolonged exposure to noisy environments, short bursts of especially loud sound, wearing proper hearing protection devices and having your hearing checked if it is indicated are all important steps to preventing hearing loss. To schedule a hearing consultation, please call HEARAGAIN BALANCE & HEARING CLINICS at 905-471-4242. Located at 600 Garrison Rd., Unit 12, we are open M-F 9am-5pm. Most major insurance accepted. Please visit our website at www.hearagainbalance.com

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Brick for people who complain
A brick for people who have nothing better to do than complain about everything. There is nothing worse than someone who complains and complains and complains and does nothing to fix the problem.

Bouquet for a friend
A bouquet for my friend who is expecting a baby. You feel uncomfortable and bigger than a house but you look absolutely gorgeous. I am so excited for you.

Brick for dog owner
A brick to the people who keep leaving their dog's do-do on my front lawn. I know it's a common brick, but it really is frustrating when you walk outside of your home and see yet another pile of fecal matter on

your front lawn. Seriously, it takes two seconds to poop and scoop.

Bouquet for a lady
A bouquet for the kind young lady who assisted me with my groceries last week. I had a difficult time walking because I sprained my ankle and this young woman helped me carry my groceries to the car. It's nice to see young people these days take a moment to help an older fellow like.

Brick for rude people
A brick to all those people who have nothing better to do than annoy people and poke fun at others just because they are different. Shame on you. Just because someone is different, it doesn't

give you the right to make fun of them.

Bouquet for a bridesmaid
A bouquet for my bridesmaid who helped with our stag and doe and the bridal shower. Your help means a lot to me.

Bouquet for responsible pet owners

A bouquet for people who have their pets spayed or neutered. Thank you for doing the responsible thing and controlling the population of unwanted puppies and kittens. If more people did this, there wouldn't be as many animals without homes.

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The Fort Erie Times

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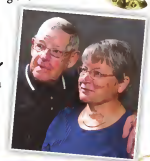
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Coming Events

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we shall see the sky sparkling with diamonds. - Chekov

In Memoriams to remember!

Obituaries | In Memoriam | Thanks | Births | Celebrations | More

Obituaries

Obituaries

Obituaries

Obituaries



HUFFMAN, Ronald Burton of Ridgeway, passed away at the Niagara Falls General Hospital surrounded by the love and presence of his family on March 28, 2014 at the age of 81. Loving husband to Linda (Parise). Ron was a proud family man who will be dearly missed. Survived by his daughters Elizabeth (Randy) Farnen, Melody (David) Simons and Patti (Rocco) Portocesi; sons Ronnie Huffman and John (Annie) Huffman; and 11 Grandchildren and 8 Great Grandchildren. Loving brother to Jack, Iva, Jean Lufka and many nieces and nephews. Predeceased by his first wife Patricia (Wilson) Huffman and parents, Albert and Alice Huffman. Ron was a dear brother and was predeceased by his siblings Allen, Harold, Evelyn and Donald and son-in-law Henry Knutson. Celebration of Life was held March 30, 2014 in Ridgeway. Private interment at a later date. Donations may be made to a charity of your choice in his memory.

When someone you love becomes a memory, the memory becomes a treasure.

In Memoriams

Remember Your
Loved One!



KONINGS, (Worthington) Kathy - Passed away peacefully at home with family at her side on April 3, 2014 after a four year courageous battle with breast cancer. She was in her 68th year. Born in Toronto April 7, 1946. Beloved wife and soulmate for 45 years of Chris, loving daughter and best friend Ken (Chris) and son Chris (Cassandra) grandson Christopher her pride and joy. Survived also by her sister Juanita Bryant, predeceased by her mother Florence (Sandin) and sister Diane Sandin, Alabama, George and Freda Worthington (Grandparents). She will be missed by mother in law Cora and the late Frank Konings. Brother in law Frank (Judy) Zachary, Angie & Ayden Konings, Lori and Jim McKinney (Bahamas) and all other nieces and nephews. Best friend and co-worker of 25 years to Charlene Teak. Kathy dedicated 25 yrs of her life working as a personal support worker with paramed. She enjoyed gardening, cooking, travelling and most of all spending time with family. Her family was her inspiration in life. Family wish to extend their thanks to her nurses Elizabeth and Carol. Dr. Scher for his kindness and compassion. Donny Edwards and staff. A special thank you to Kevin and Denise for all their support. At Kathy's request cremation has taken place and her life will be celebrated with family at a later date.

Those we love don't go away, they walk beside us every day. Unseen, unheard, but always near. Still loved, still missed and very dear. - eulaces

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Obituaries

Obituaries

Obituaries

Obituaries

MERCER, Mr. Larry Robert - (Aircraft Engineer with Flying Colours) At the Christian-Vent Health Alliance on Wednesday, April 2, 2014 in his 64th year. Beloved father of Lauri and her husband Matt Butzer, Tyler and his wife Lori-Ann and Rebecka Bonnie. Cherished grandfather of Owen, Austin, Brooke, Hannah, Jovan, Keyana, Bella, Taliyah, Janelle and Zakya. Dear brother of Robert, Donald and Lisa Mercer. Predeceased by his sisters Judy Lee and Carol-Lee Zebec. Larry will be sadly missed by his nieces, nephews, friends and colleagues. Friends will be received at the **HIGHLAND PARK FUNERAL CENTRE** 2510 Bensford Rd., Peterborough on Monday from 7-9 p.m. Funeral Service to Celebrate Larry's Life will be held on Tuesday, April 8, 2014 at 1 p.m. in the Highland Park Funeral Centre Chapel. Cremation. Reception to follow at the Highland Park Funeral Centre. In memory of Larry, donations to the Canadian Cancer Society would be appreciated by the family. On-line condolences at www.highlandparkfuneralcentre.com



REICHELT, Evelyn Jean (Plato) - Born in Fort Erie July 5th, 1925 Jean passed away on April 3rd, 2014. Beloved wife of the late William Reichelt. Dearly loved mother of Bill (Barb) of B.C., Ron of California, Janey (Bob) Renshaw, Alan (Tish) and Randy (Terry) of Fort Erie and Doug of Alberta. Cherished Grandmother of 19 grandchildren, 12 great grandchildren and 3 great great grandchildren. Sadly missed sister of Marge (Fred), Keith (Shirley) and Dave (Heather) and sister in law of Gerry. She was predeceased by her parents Ray and Evelyn Plato a sister Mable and her brothers Ray, Bill and Donald. Jean was a member of the Garrison Road United Brethren Church and will be sadly missed by her many friends there. **BENNER FUNERAL SERVICES**, 1105 Benner Ave., Fort Erie entrusted with arrangements. The family will receive friends on Monday, April 7th, from 2-4 & 7-9 p.m. Funeral Services will be held in the Garrison Road United Brethren Church on Tuesday at 2 pm followed by interment in Greenwood Cemetery. Memorial donations to the United Brethren Church, the Fort Erie Palliative Care or the charity of one's choice would be appreciated. The children would like to thank all Mom's friends and family for making her life a wonderful journey.

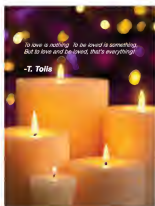
SCHNEIDER, Andreas - of Fort Erie passed away peacefully at home Tuesday April 6th, 2014 at the age of 97 years. He was the beloved husband of Helene and father of Monica (David) of North Bay, Manfred (Sherry) of Toronto, William (Laure) of Ridgeway, Bernadette of Kitchener and Emilie of Fort Erie. grandfather of Alysha, Darian, Carl, Richard, James, Thomas and Lyle. Friends will be received at the **BENNER FUNERAL SERVICES** 1105 Benner Ave Fort Erie on Friday April 11th 5-7pm. Funeral Mass will be held at St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church on Saturday April 12th, at 11:00 a.m. Entombment will follow in Pleasantview Memorial Gardens. Memorial donations may be made to the St. Michael's Building Fund.

*Perhaps they are not stars in the sky,
but rather openings where our loved
ones shine down to let us know they
are happy. - Eskimo Legend*

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Obituaries
In Memoriam
Thanks
Births
Birthday
Engagements
Graduation
Anniversaries
Marriage
Retirements
Reunions
Adoptions
Special Occasions

PETRELLA, Patricia Anne - Passed away at the Welland Hospital on Thursday April 3rd at the age of 77. Loving wife of Samuel. Proud mother of Samuel Jr. (Maretha), Patrick Joseph (Joan) and Deborah Terese (Steve) VanEmmerik. Proud grandmother of Nicholas, Joshua, Jacquelyn, Sebastiano, Sydney and Isaac. Sadly missed by her siblings Diane (David) Bersani, Elise (Jim) Downs, Ron (Carol) Vander Walker and Sharyn Vander Walker. **BENNER FUNERAL SERVICES**, 1105 Benner Ave., Fort Erie entrusted with arrangements. The family received friends on Sunday April 6th from 2-4 & 7-9. Vigil Prayers at 7 p.m. Funeral Mass was celebrated at St. George's Roman Catholic Church on Monday morning at 10 o'clock. Entombment at Pleasantview Memorial Gardens in Fort Hall to follow.



*To love is nothing. To be loved is something.
But to live and be loved, that's everything!*

- T. Tolle

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